Braving up to stop Pak T.V. invasion

1663. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item that appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 16th July, 1991 captioned 'Braving up to stop Pak T.V. invasion';

(b) whether it is a fact that due to delay in execution of long pending Central Government schemes to counter Pak propaganda, people of western Rajasthan themselves are taking steps to counter it;

(c) if so, what are the details of Central schemes in this regard and the reason for the delay in their execution;

(d) whether it is a fact that a sufficient number of Low Power Transmitters have not been set up with the result that people in the border areas from Hindumalkot to Bikaner are compelled to watch Pakistani T.V. programmes; and

(e) whether Government propose to expedite the execution of these proposals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen the said news item.

(b) and (c) The Government fully share the anxiety of the local population. Conscious of the need to strengthen TV coverage in the border areas of Rajasthan, the Government formulated a comprehensive scheme which, *inter alia,* included the establishment of a High Power (10KW) TV Transmitter with 300 M High Tower, each at Barmer and Jaisalmer. These are projects of long gestation involving a normal lead time of about 4 years for completion after commencement of civil works at the site. Civil works have been taken up at both these places. There was, however, some delay in the commencement of civil works mainly because a detailed exercise had to be carried out for finalising techno-economic design of 300 M high towers taking into account the local soil and environmental conditions and an approach road about 10 Km long had to be constructed up to the project site at Barmer to facilitate commencement of civil works.

(d) and (e) Seven Low Power TV Transmitters are at present functioning in the border districts of Barmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. With the establishment of the High Power TV Transmitters under implementation at Barmer and Jaisalmer, the TV service in large parts of the border areas of Rajasthan shall stand considerably strengthened. It has been Doordarshan's endeavour to implement these projects as expeditiously as possible.

The Government also fully recognise the need for bringing about further improvement in the TV service especially in Bikaner and Ganganagar districts of Rajasthan. This objective can, however, be achieved only in a phased manner depending upon the availability of the resources for the purpose.

Overinvoicing in imports of Drugs and medicines

1664. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI NARAYAN KAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases of overinvoicing in imports of drugs and medicines and overcharging of prices by drug companies that have been brought to the notice of Government upto 30th June 1991; and

(b) what action has been taken in each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) A number of complaints have been received alleging over-invoicing in imports and overcharging of prices by drug companies. The information to the extent available is given in the statement. (*See* below)